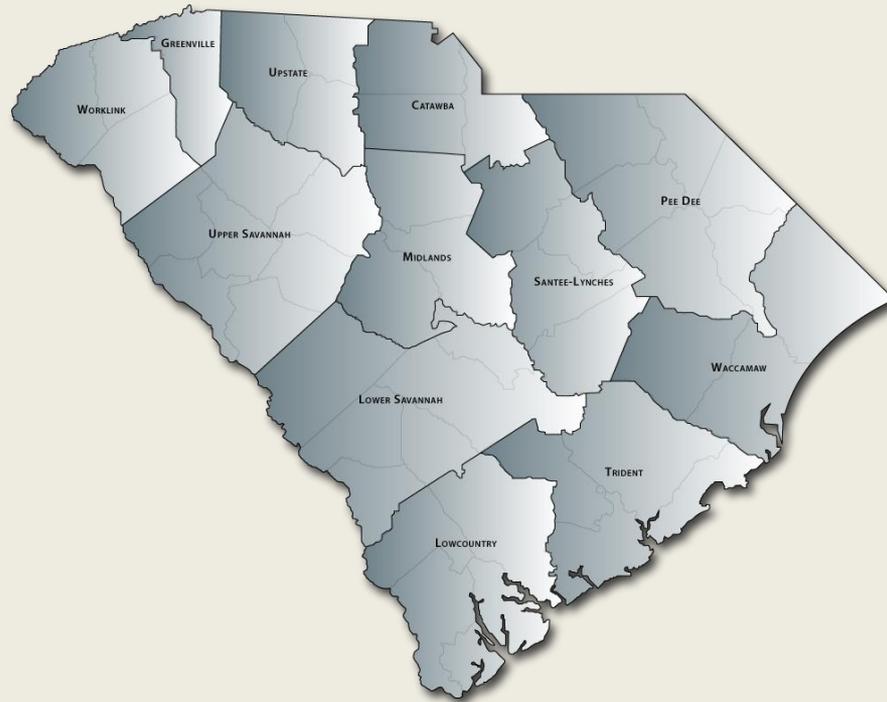


# South Carolina Local Workforce Development Area (WDA) Employment Metrics



# Introduction

South Carolina's economy has been through a rollercoaster ride of ups and downs over the past dozen years. Strong growth occurred from the middle of 2003 to the onset of the Great Recession in December 2007. The downturn in employment followed to early 2010 (the Recession ended in June 2009 officially). A gradual recovery then ensued with sharper employment gains happening more recently.

The Great Recession and subsequent Recovery affected the different parts of the state by varying degrees, depending upon the economic mix of industries and their proximity to the state's larger urban areas. The urban and suburban areas generally fared better economically than did the rural areas of South Carolina.

This presentation seeks to examine the employment situation of the state's 12 local workforce development areas using a number of metrics that highlight the state's changing economy over the period from the third quarter of 2003 to the fourth quarter of 2015. Each area's status is depicted using three charts of information, displayed on a quarterly basis. One chart features three measures of employment - stable quarterly employment, beginning of quarter employment, and maximum quarterly employment. Another chart shows the change in employment, calculated by subtracting the number of job separations from the number of new hires. This chart also illustrates the stable employment turnover rate. A third chart presents the total payroll of all workers and the net change in payroll of workers hiring into stable employment versus those workers who separated from stable employment.

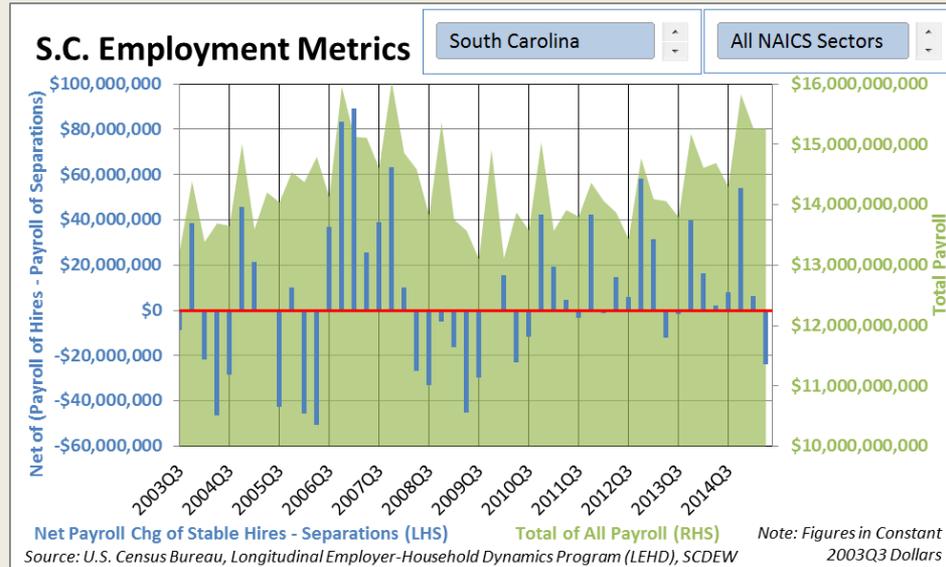
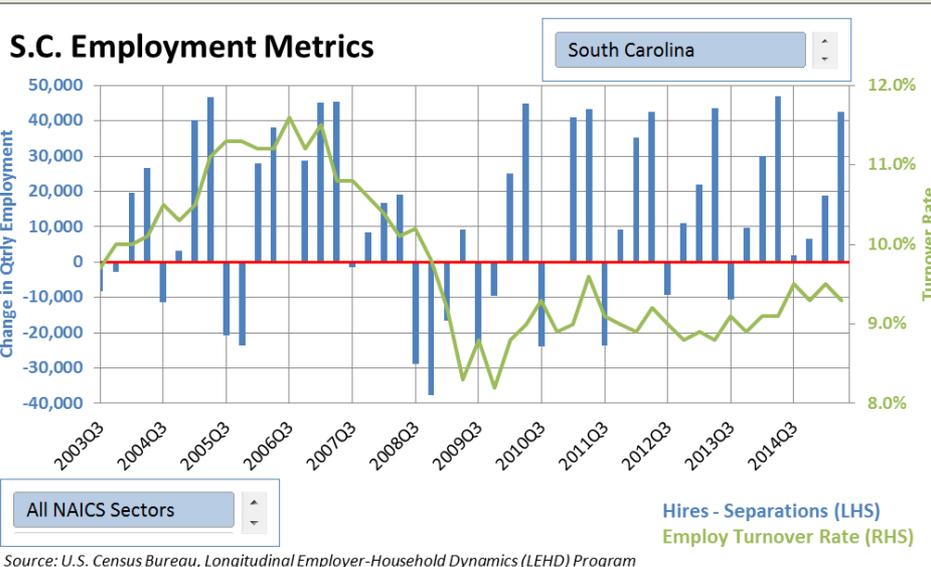
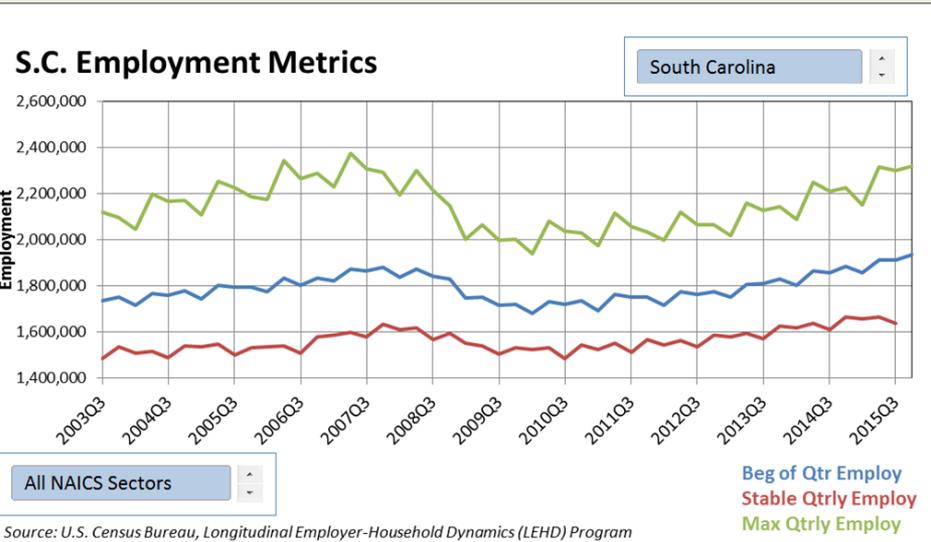
# Data Definitions

This presentation uses a number of measures of employment from the U.S. Census Bureau's Longitudinal Household Employer Dynamics (LEHD) Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) program that are depicted in the following charts and are defined below:

- **Beg of Qtr Employ:** The estimate of the total number of jobs on the first day of the reference quarter. Beginning-of-quarter employment counts are similar to point-in-time employment measures, such as the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW).
- **Stable Qtrly Employ:** The estimate of stable jobs, i.e., the number of jobs that are held on both the first and last day of the quarter with the same employer.
- **Max Qtrly Employ:** This is a count of people employed in a firm at any time during the quarter. It is not a count of jobs. This measure may also be referred to as “flow” employment.
- **Hires – Separations:** The estimated number of workers who started a new job in the specified quarter minus the estimated number of workers whose job with a given employer ended in the specified quarter.
- **Employ Turnover Rate:** The rate at which stable jobs begin and end. It is calculated by summing the number of stable hires in the reference quarter and stable separations in the next quarter, and dividing by the average full-quarter employment.
- **Net Payroll Chg of Stable Hires – Separations:** Calculated by taking the number of stable hires in the reference quarter multiplied by the average monthly earnings of stable hires minus the number of stable separations in the reference quarter multiplied by the average monthly earnings of stable separations.
- **Total of All Payroll:** Total quarterly payroll for all jobs in the reference quarter.

# South Carolina

- Quarterly employment has surpassed previous highs for two of three metrics since the Recovery began.
- Generally, the number of hires exceeded the number of separations during economic growth. The third quarter is usually a negative employment growth period. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll is approaching previous highs; payroll of hires has generally exceeded that of separations in the Recovery.



# Catawba WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics

60 Catawba WIB



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

- Quarterly employment has surpassed previous highs for all three metrics since the Recovery began.
- The number of hires has exceeded the number of separations for nearly every quarter during the Recovery. Employment turnover, however, has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has surpassed previous highs; payroll of hires has exceeded that of separations in the Recovery.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

60 Catawba WIB

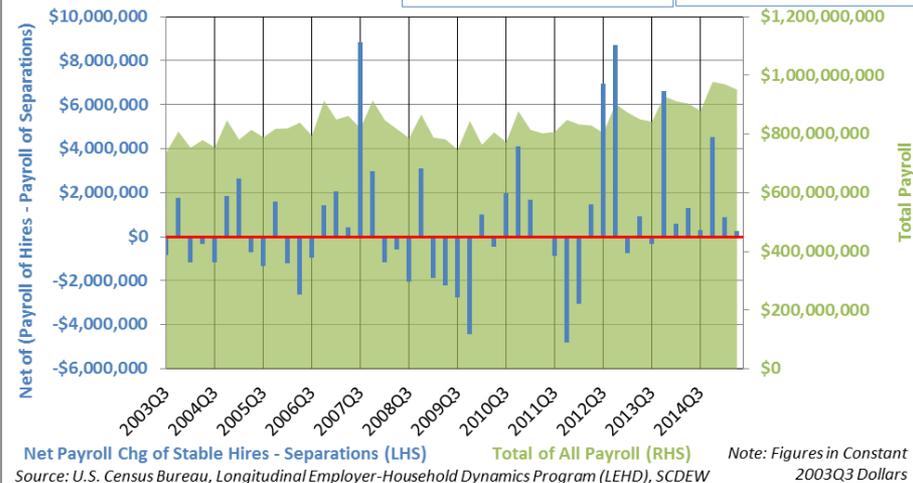


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

## S.C. Employment Metrics

60 Catawba WIB

All NAICS Sectors



# Greenville WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics

15 Greenville WIB



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

- Quarterly employment has surpassed previous highs for all three metrics since the Recovery began.
- The number of hires has exceeded the number of separations in all but two quarters during the Recovery. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has surpassed previous highs; payroll of hires has generally exceeded that of separations in the Recovery.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

15 Greenville WIB

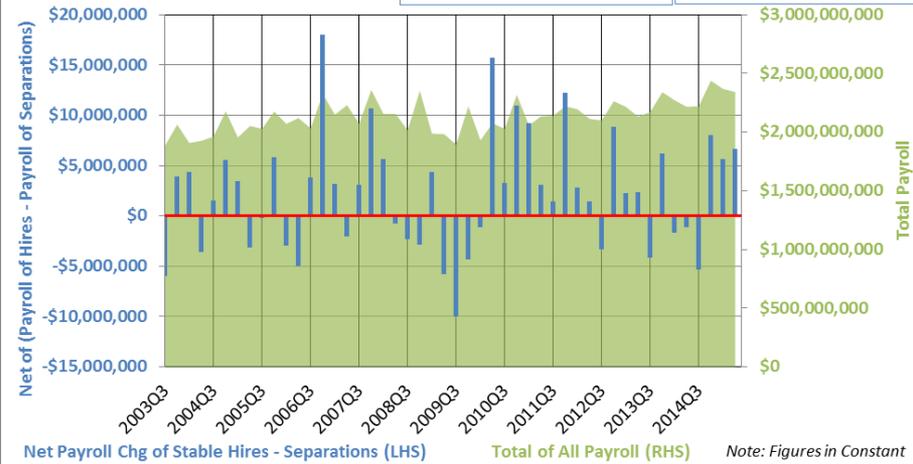


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

## S.C. Employment Metrics

15 Greenville WIB

All NAICS Sectors

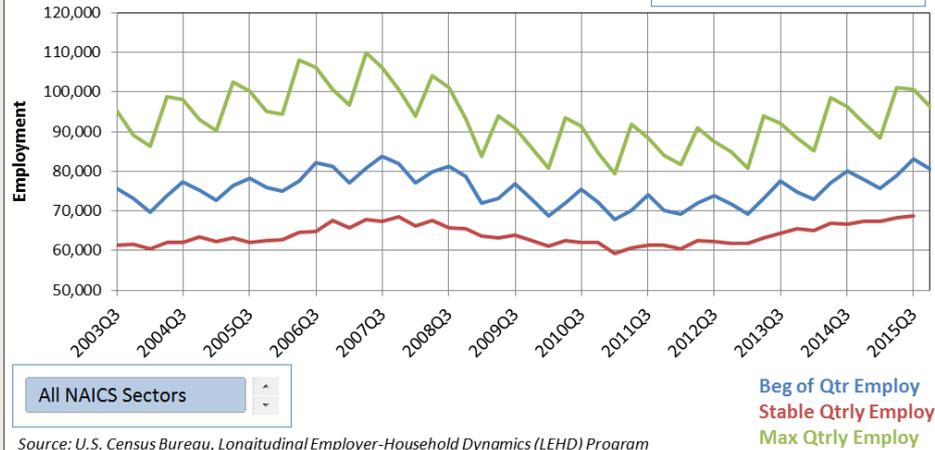


Note: Figures in Constant 2003Q3 Dollars  
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program (LEHD), SCDEW

# Lowcountry WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics

10 Lowcountry WIB



- Quarterly employment has surpassed previous highs for one of three metrics since the Recovery began.
- The first two quarters during the year are growing typically in this economy, while the last two quarters are negative. Generally, the positive growth employment quarters are higher than the negative quarters are during the Recovery. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has not surpassed previous highs; payroll of hires minus separations has been mostly positive during the past three years.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

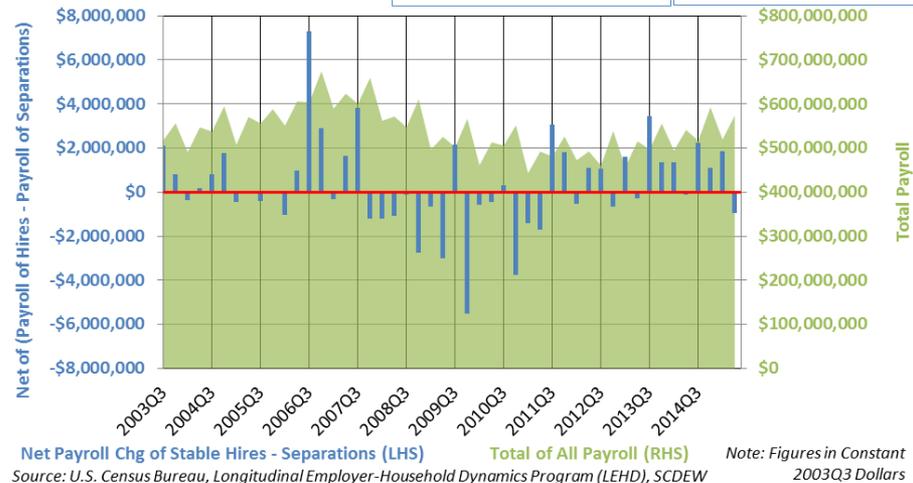
10 Lowcountry WIB



## S.C. Employment Metrics

10 Lowcountry WIB

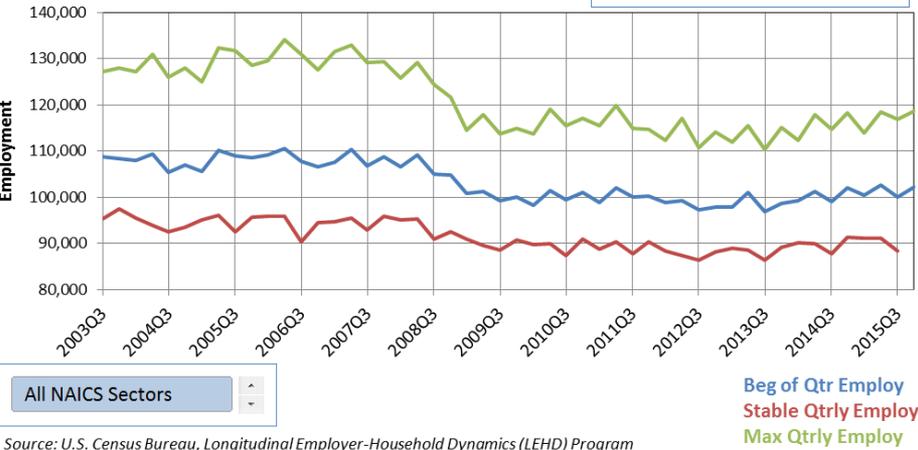
All NAICS Sectors



# Lower Savannah WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics

50 Lower Savannah WIB



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

- Quarterly employment has not surpassed previous highs for all three metrics since the Recovery began.
- Generally, the number of hires exceeded the number of separations during economic growth and for the past seven consecutive quarters. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has not surpassed previous highs; payroll of hires minus separations has been mixed during the recent past.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

50 Lower Savannah WIB

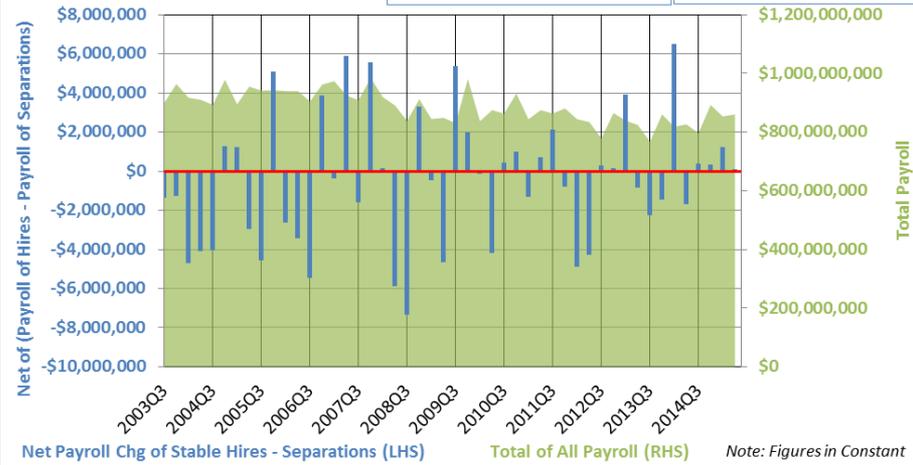


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

## S.C. Employment Metrics

50 Lower Savannah ...

All NAICS Sectors



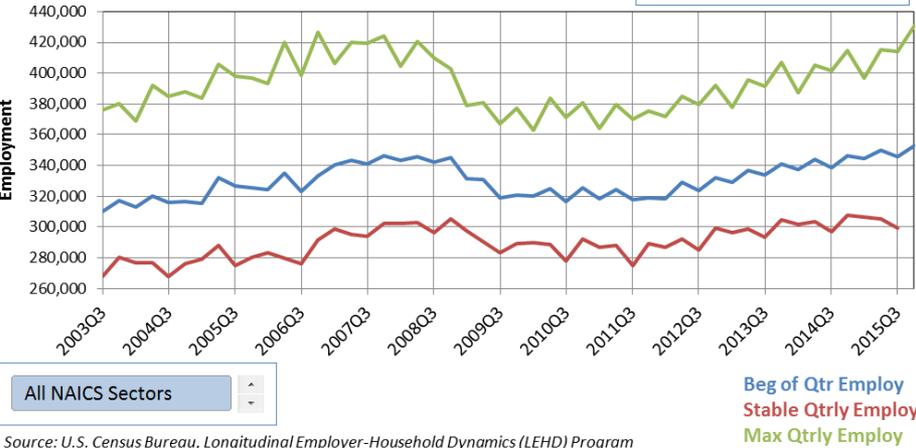
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program (LEHD), SCDEW  
Note: Figures in Constant 2003Q3 Dollars

# Midlands WDA

- Quarterly employment has surpassed previous highs for all three metrics since the Recovery began.
- The number of hires has exceeded the number of separations in all but three quarters during the Recovery. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has approached previous highs; payroll of hires has generally exceeded that of separations in the Recovery.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

05 Midlands WIB



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

## S.C. Employment Metrics

05 Midlands WIB

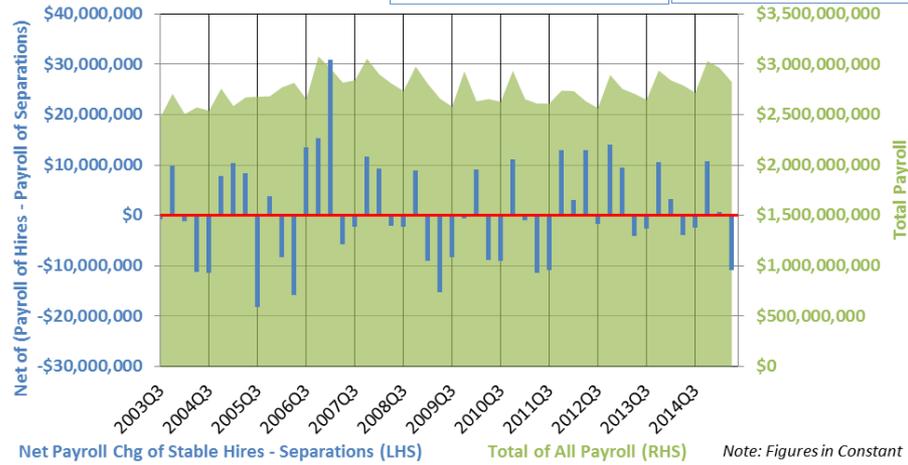


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

## S.C. Employment Metrics

05 Midlands WIB

All NAICS Sectors



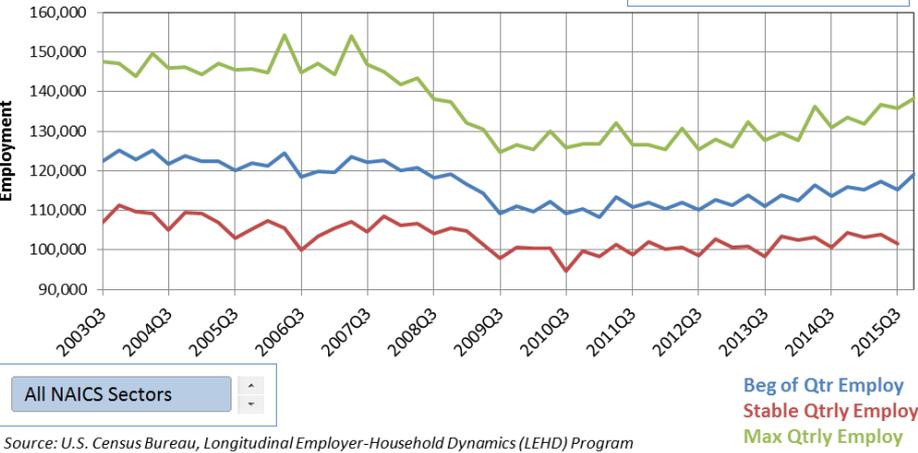
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program (LEHD), SCDEW

Note: Figures in Constant 2003Q3 Dollars

# Pee Dee WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics

45 Pee Dee WIB



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

- Quarterly employment has not surpassed previous highs for all three metrics since the Recovery began.
- The number of hires exceeded the number of separations during the Recovery. The third quarter has typically been negative. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has not surpassed previous highs; payroll of hires minus separations has been mostly negative during the recent past.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

45 Pee Dee WIB

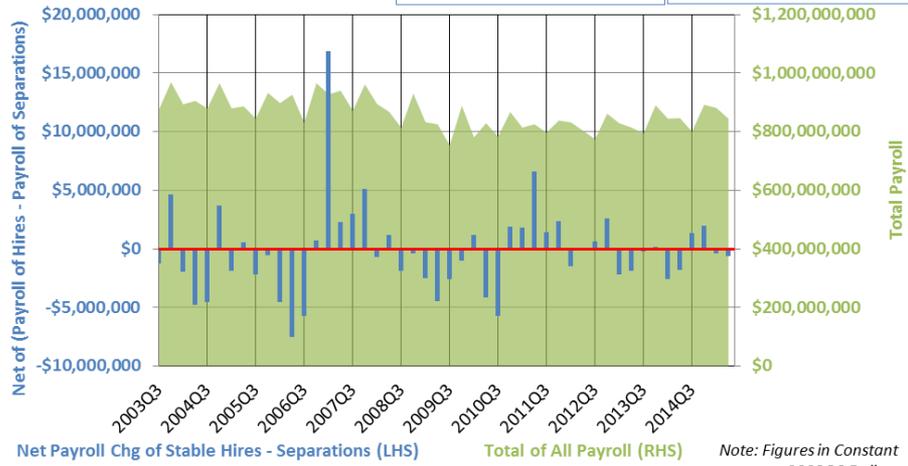


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

## S.C. Employment Metrics

45 Pee Dee WIB

All NAICS Sectors

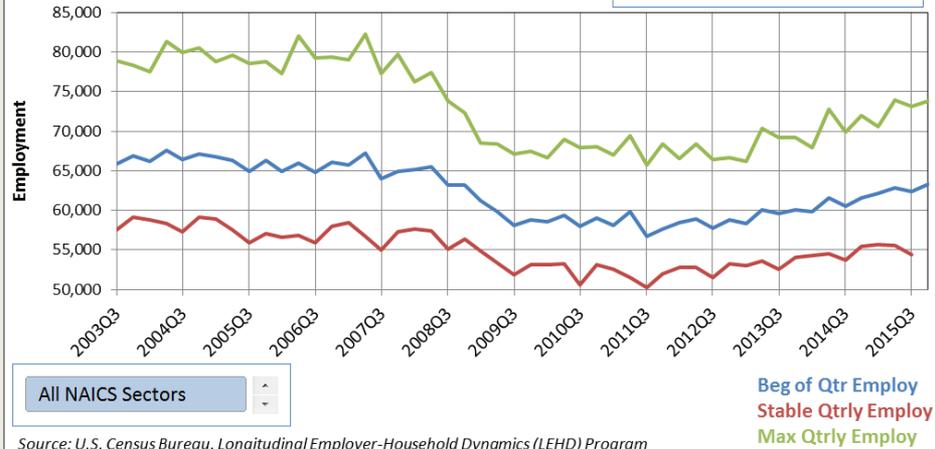


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program (LEHD), SCDEW  
 Note: Figures in Constant 2003Q3 Dollars

# Santee-Lynches WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics

65 Santee-Lynches WIB



- Quarterly employment has not surpassed previous highs for all three metrics since the Recovery began.
- Generally, the number of hires exceeded the number of separations during economic growth. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has not surpassed previous highs; payroll of hires minus separations has been mixed during the past three years.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

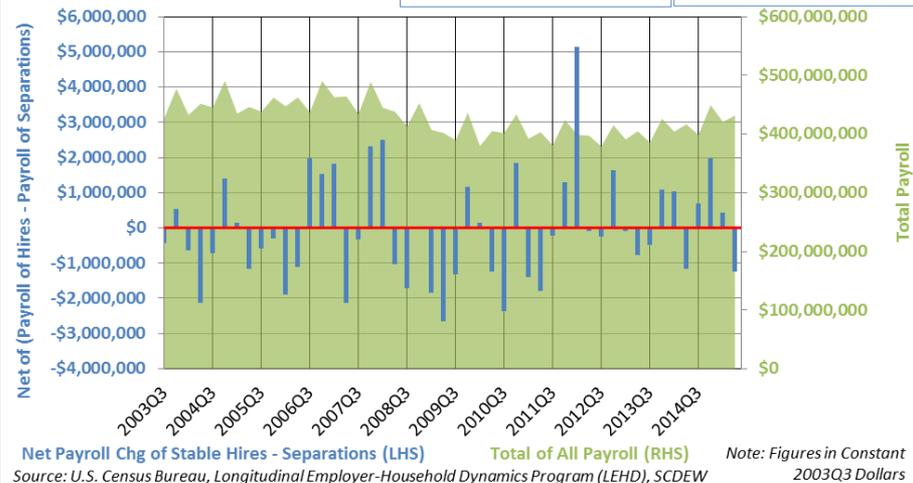
65 Santee-Lynches WIB



## S.C. Employment Metrics

65 Santee-Lynches ...

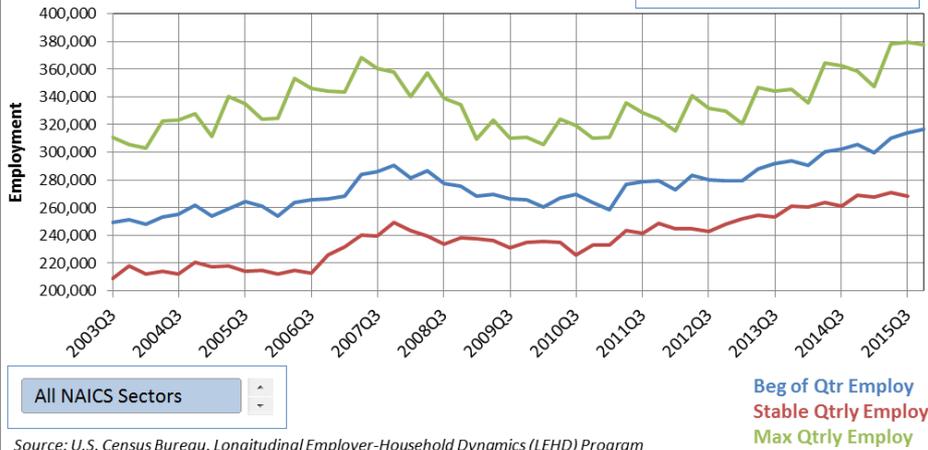
All NAICS Sectors



# Trident WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics

95 Trident WIB



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

- Quarterly employment has surpassed previous highs for all three metrics since the Recovery began.
- Generally, the number of hires exceeded the number of separations during economic growth. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has surpassed previous highs; payroll of hires has generally exceeded that of separations in the Recovery.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

95 Trident WIB

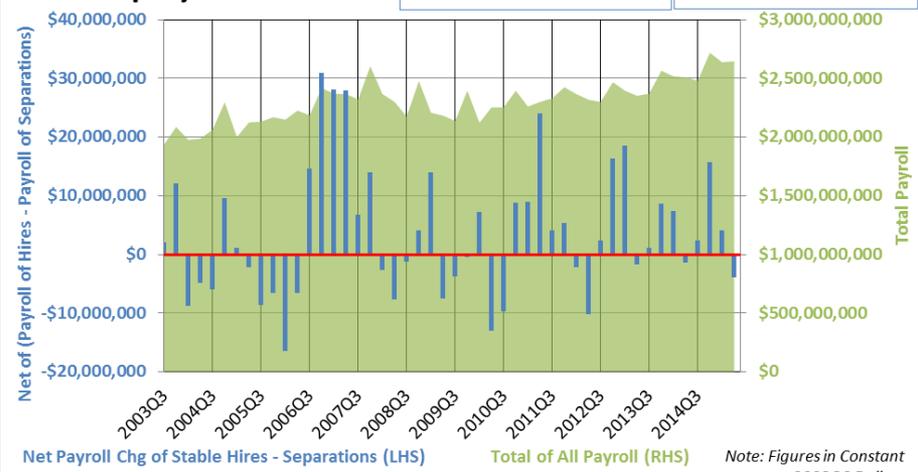


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

## S.C. Employment Metrics

95 Trident WIB

All NAICS Sectors

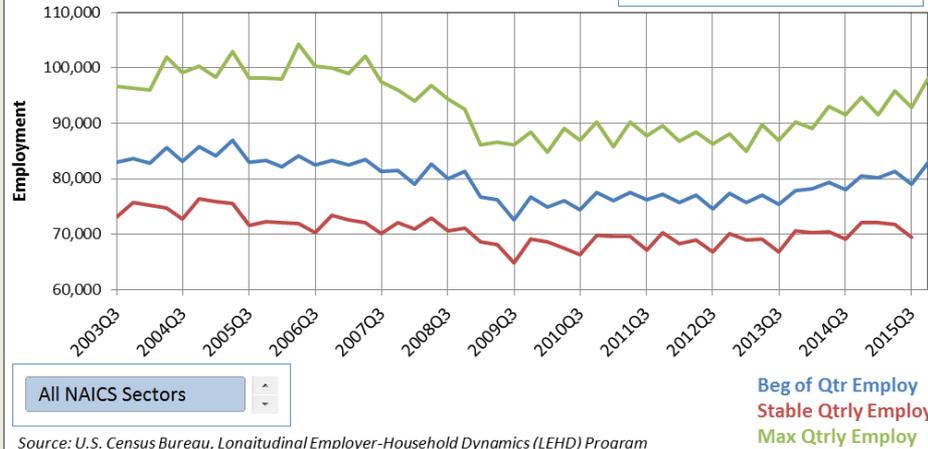


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program (LEHD), SCDEW  
 Note: Figures in Constant 2003Q3 Dollars

# Upper Savannah WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics

25 Upper Savannah WIB



- Quarterly employment has not surpassed previous highs for all three metrics since the Recovery began.
- Generally, the number of hires exceeded the number of separations during the Recovery. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has not surpassed previous highs; payroll of hires minus separations has been mixed during the past three years.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

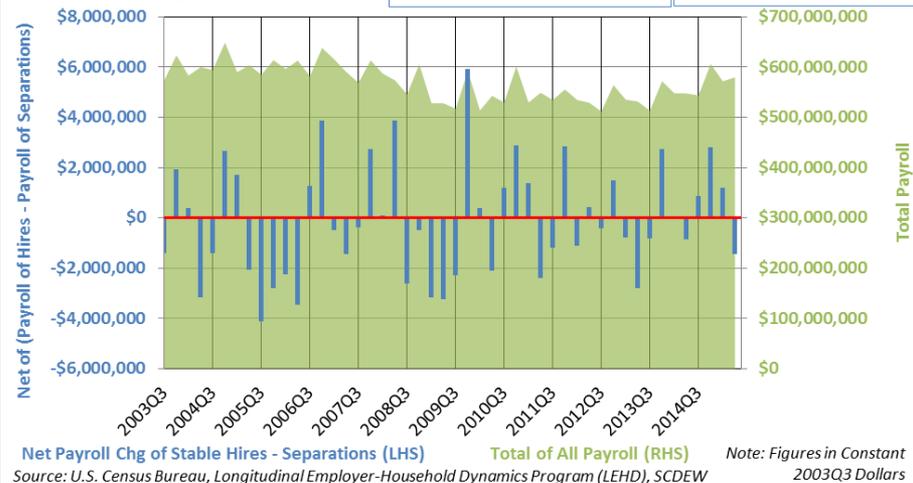
25 Upper Savannah WIB



## S.C. Employment Metrics

25 Upper Savannah ...

All NAICS Sectors



# Upstate WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

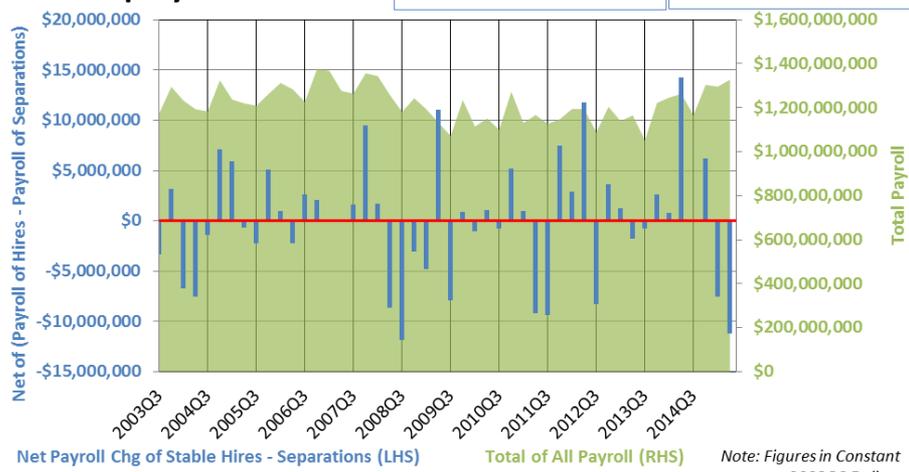
- Quarterly employment has surpassed previous highs for two of three metrics since the Recovery began.
- The number of hires has exceeded the number of separations for nearly every quarter during the Recovery. Employment turnover has exceeded levels reached before the Recession for several quarters during the Recovery.
- Total constant dollar payroll has approached previous highs; payroll of hires minus separations has been mixed and volatile during the past three years.

## S.C. Employment Metrics



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

## S.C. Employment Metrics

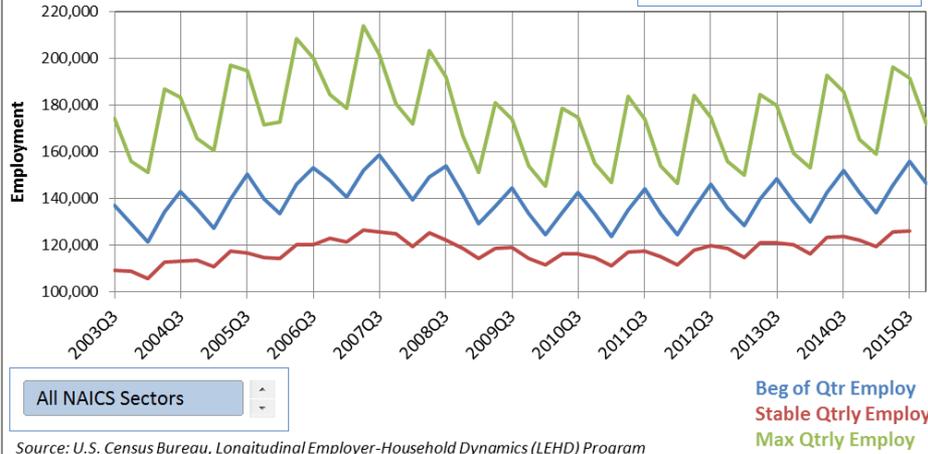


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program (LEHD), SCDEW  
Note: Figures in Constant 2003Q3 Dollars

# Waccamaw WDA

## S.C. Employment Metrics

85 Waccamaw WIB



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

- Quarterly employment in this highly seasonal economy is nearing previous highs for two of the three metrics since the Recovery began.
- The first two quarters during the year are growing in this economy, while the last two quarters are negative. Generally, the positive growth employment quarters are higher recently than in the past, while the negative quarters are less so than during the Recession. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has not surpassed previous highs; payroll of hires has generally exceeded that of separations in the Recovery.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

85 Waccamaw WIB

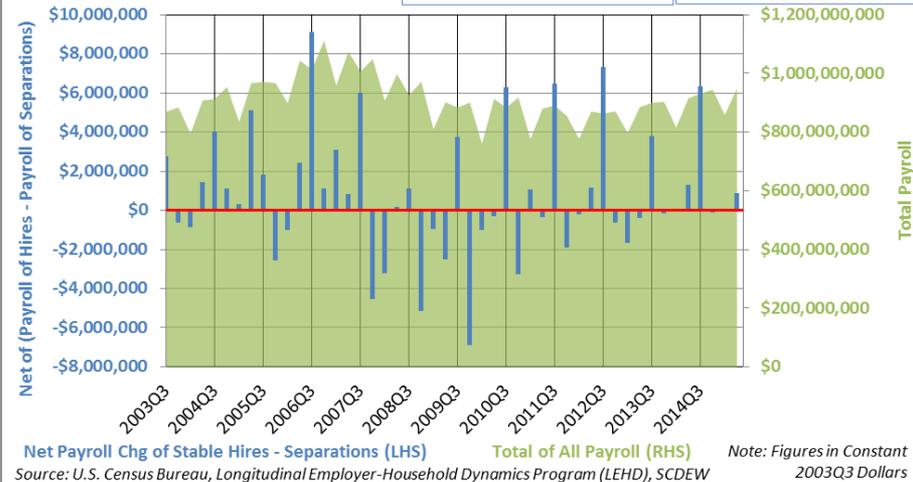


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) Program

## S.C. Employment Metrics

85 Waccamaw WIB

All NAICS Sectors



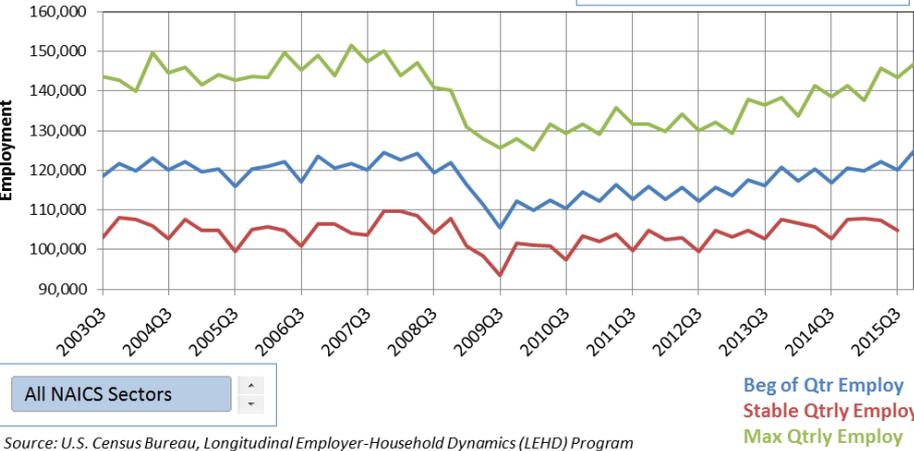
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics Program (LEHD), SCDEW  
 Note: Figures in Constant 2003Q3 Dollars

# WorkLink WDA

- Quarterly employment has surpassed previous highs for one of three metrics since the Recovery began.
- The number of hires has exceeded the number of separations in all but four quarters during the Recovery. Employment turnover has not recovered to levels before the Recession.
- Total constant dollar payroll has approached previous highs; payroll of hires minus separations has been mixed during the past three years.

## S.C. Employment Metrics

10 Pendleton District W



## S.C. Employment Metrics

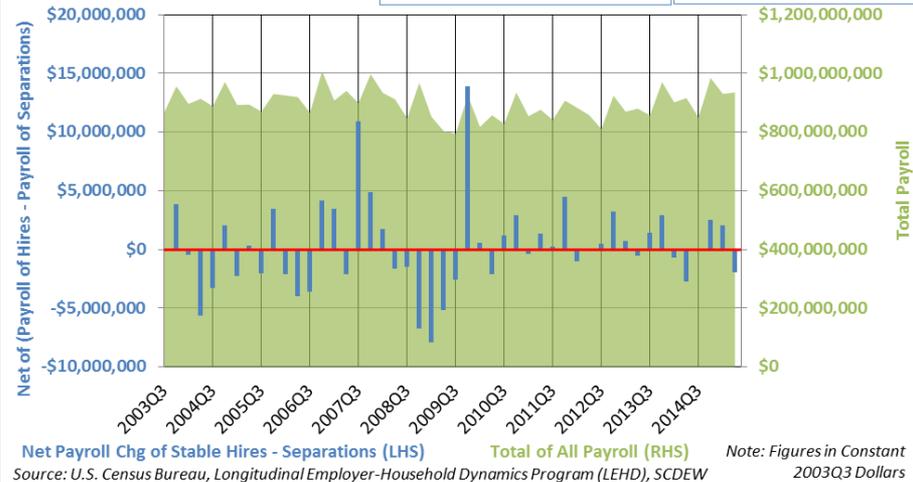
10 Pendleton District W



## S.C. Employment Metrics

10 Pendleton District W

All NAICS Sectors



# About the Data

The Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) program is part of the Center for Economic Studies at the U.S. Census Bureau. The LEHD program produces new, cost effective, public-use information combining federal, state and Census Bureau data on employers and employees under the Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Partnership. State and local authorities increasingly need detailed local information about their economies to make informed decisions. The LED Partnership works to fill critical data gaps and provide indicators needed by state and local authorities.

Under the LED Partnership, states agree to share Unemployment Insurance earnings data and the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data with the Census Bureau. The LEHD program combines these administrative data, additional administrative data and data from censuses and surveys. From these data, the program creates statistics on employment, earnings, and job flows at detailed levels of geography and industry and for different demographic groups.<sup>1</sup>

The Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) that are used in this presentation provide local labor market statistics by industry, worker demographics, employer age and size. Unlike statistics tabulated from firm or person-level data, the QWI source data are unique job-level data that link workers to their employers.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) program, <http://lehdmap.did.census.gov/>.

<sup>2</sup> For more information on data definitions, see [http://lehdmap.did.census.gov/doc/QWI\\_101.pdf](http://lehdmap.did.census.gov/doc/QWI_101.pdf).

## Required Language:

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# S.C. Department of Employment and Workforce Business Intelligence Department

